

THE VIRGINIA TEACHER

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EDUCATIONAL COMMENT

CHILD HEALTH DAY IN VIRGINIA

Reporting to the American Child Health Association on the accomplishment in Virginia, Dr. Mary Evelyn Brydon, Director of the Bureau of Child Welfare of the State Board of Education, states that Child Health Day in Virginia might be called the "Victory March of the Five Pointers."

"The recognition and reward of the children who reached this minimum standard of physical fitness has been the central idea of all the festivals," writes Dr. Brydon, "whether in individual schools or in county or city-wide programs. The Five Point children wore blue ribbons, or colored paper caps, carried banners, or rode on floats, to distinguish them from the 'common herd.' The effect has been that the 'herd' had been stampeding to join the Five Point class. Children have pleaded, wept, and walked miles to secure corrections that formerly they would have bolted to escape.

"The Health Contests for the highest percentage of Five Point children that have been held in counties and cities for the last two or three years, have steadily increased in number and in interest, both in white and colored schools."

The number of Five Point children in the state has doubled since last year, and now reaches about eighty-four thousand or 14 per cent of the total number. When one

considers that forty-two thousand children have been added to the ranks in the space of twelve months, this seems a notable accomplishment.

Child Health Day, as Virginia prefers to call it, constituted the "finals" in those contests, but the plans were laid in June, 1927, when a committee of division school superintendents appointed by the State Department of Education met to confer with the State Chairman. This committee gave the matter much attention and came several times to Richmond to meet with the State Chairman. It prepared resolutions which were adopted by the Superintendents' Conference in November and which provided among other things for a permanent Superintendents' Health Committee to be advisory to the State Board of Health and for the appointment of each Superintendent of Schools as chairman of Child Health Day in his respective county or city; the resolutions also advised that where practicable a central county-wide Child Health Day be arranged for the visual health education of parents as well as children, and that the State Board of Health be requested to prepare suitable health literature to aid in the celebration of Child Health Day.

All these resolutions were carried into effect, and in regard to the last named, *Health Notes for Superintendents*, a mimeographed monthly, was started in January, 1928, by the Child Health Bureau for the purpose of keeping the superintendents in touch with Child Health Day plans and other public health data. Special articles were published monthly in two educational journals and in *Community League News*.

Special Activities

Proclamation by the Governor.

The first school to reach the goal of 100 per cent Five Pointers was the Rockland School in Warren County, with the Dolphin School in Brunswick County only one point behind. Competition was keen all over the state and in some cases spectacular gains

were made, as in the case of Rockbridge County, which reported the number of its Five Point children increased from two hundred to nine hundred in a year's time, although the Health Unit had been in existence only eighteen months.

Child Health Day has embraced many phases of health besides the five points. Tuberculin-tested cows have paraded with the Five Pointers; Red Cross floats, Drink Milk floats, Toxin Anti-toxin floats, Preschool floats, Health Habit floats, Swat the Fly floats, etc., have given stimulus to the other health aims. In some places the preschool children were especially featured by miniature floats drawn up by the children in procession.

In the campaign to produce the greatest per cent of Five Point children, new activities sprang up in schools, such as the provision of hot lunches or midmorning milk in schools not having had these before but which were trying to bring their underweight children up to average weight. Where tonsils and adenoids needed to be removed, and family budgets could not be made to cover this, clubs helped to secure the necessary funds.

Both the Community and Junior Leagues made encouragement of the largest number of Five Point children one of their special objectives.

A Committee of Pediatricians was appointed by the Bureau of Child Welfare to study the problems of the preschool child entering school for the first time.

Permanent Results

Child Health Day in Virginia has grown in four years from scattered celebrations voluntarily promoted by interested citizens and organizations, into a unified, carefully planned program under official direction.

A permanent "Superintendents' Health Committee," advisory to the State Board of Health in its child health program, has been appointed by the Division Superintendents in conference.

EDUCATIONAL TOUR IN GERMANY IN 1929

The International Institute of Teachers College, Columbia University, and the Central Institute for Education and Instruction of Berlin announce a tour of Germany's educational institutions for the summer of 1929. This tour is organized by the Central Institute which operates under the auspices of the Prussian Ministry of Education and the German Federal Ministry of the Interior.

The selection of members of the party will be in the hands of the International Institute of Teachers College, Columbia University. This tour will afford a most unusual opportunity to see German schools, since it is under the official direction of the German educational authorities. This provision assures the members of the party the closest insight possible into the school systems. This is the first time such an opportunity has been afforded American teachers as a group.

The visitation of schools will begin on June 17, 1929, either at Hamburg or Bremen, and will continue for six weeks, disbanding just before the World Federation of Educational Associations Conference in Geneva, which meets the last week in July, 1929.

The tour will include visitation to the most prominent German cities, among which will be Bremen, Hamburg, Lubeck, Kiel, Berlin, Magdeburg, Leipzig, Dresden, Chemnitz, Gera, Jena, Weimar, Nurnberg, Munich, Stuttgart, Heidelberg, Frankfurt, Weisbaden, Coblenz, Mainz, Bonn, Cologne, Dusseldorf, and Essen.

All types of German educational institutions will be seen, such as elementary schools, secondary schools, rural schools, vocational schools, community and country boarding schools, teachers' colleges, universities and folk universities, and all types of education such as physical education, and the like. Emphasis will be placed upon

physical education, art education, dramatics, the Youth Movement, school organization, methods of instruction, outdoor life, playgrounds, and juvenile welfare.

The members of the party will assemble at Bremen or Hamburg, the starting point, arriving there by any route which they desire. The Central Institute will have complete charge of the party while in Germany, although the group will be accompanied by a member of the International Institute. The total expense for each member for the time spent in Germany (approximately six weeks) will be \$350.00. This will include second-class railway travel, food, hotels, and necessary transportation to schools and hotels within the cities.

There will be twenty-five in the party and membership will be limited to those who have some command of the German language. Anyone interested in this visitation tour may secure fuller information from Dr. Thomas Alexander, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City.

ROCKEFELLER ON RELIGION

Speaking at the dedication services of the new Rockefeller chapel at the University of Chicago, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., discussed tolerant and liberal attitudes in religion. In part he said:

"In spite of the progress which has been made, youth finds itself confused and irked as it stands at life's threshold and is confronted with an almost infinite variety of religions and sects. It stands aghast at the sorry and un-Christlike spectacle of good men and women hurling anathema at each other because of differences of theological belief and denominational partisanship.

"Is it strange, then, that the younger generation from being at first confused and irked by our multiform theologies, then aghast at the un-Christlike attitude of so-called religious people, is tempted to say to itself:

" 'If this is religion, to insist on sectarian

differences and to quibble about non-essentials, when sin is rampant in the world and evil is omnipresent; if church members are more interested in whom they will keep out of their religious bodies because of theological differences, than they are in helping people to be strong in body, clean in mind, and pure in heart, we will waste our time with nothing so hypocritical and useless; rather will we give all religion a wide berth and have none of it.'

"And to the extent that such a conclusion is reached, the intolerant sectarians of our churches are largely to blame. If Christ were on earth today, I fancy there would be but one church—the Church of the Living God.

"It would pronounce ordinance, ritual, creed, all non-essential for admission into the Kingdom of God or His Church. A life, not a creed, would be its test; what a man does, not what he professes; what he is, not what he has."

SOLOMON'S STABLES DISCOVERED AT ARMAGEDDON

Discovery of the famous stables of Solomon during the excavations of the ruins at Armageddon, Palestine, which has just been announced by the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, is described in a full report to the University by Mr. P. L. O. Guy, field director of the Institute's Megiddo expedition.

The 3,000-year-old stables on the town site of the great battle city of Armageddon, north of Jerusalem and about ten miles from the Mediterranean Sea, cover half an acre. "Solomon laid out his stables very systematically," says the report, "the stalls being arranged in double rows. The horses, about twelve to the row, stood facing each other, with a passage between the two rows of heads for the grooms and feeders. In front of each horse was a manger, and the rows of mangers were divided by massive stone hitching posts, which still contain the

original tie holes for the insertion of the halter ropes."

Dr. James Henry Breasted, director of the Oriental Institute, who learned of the discovery by cablegram before leaving for Oxford, England, to represent the United States at the International Congress of Orientalists, declared that "such a discovery will be of the greatest historical importance. Few people are aware that Solomon was not only an oriental sovereign but likewise a successful merchant. Not the least of his activities was his enterprise as a horse dealer.

"His marriage to the daughter of a Pharaoh of Egypt gave him a close connection with the Egyptian court and he therefore enjoyed inside opportunities for securing the finest breeds of Egyptian horses."

The Megiddo expedition is in the third year of a five-year campaign toward which John D. Rockefeller, Jr., contributed \$215,000 in 1925. Working under the present field director at Megiddo are seven members of the University of Chicago, a staff of trained Egyptian diggers, and two hundred natives of Palestine, mostly women, who carry small baskets of rubbish on their heads to the dump.

SALARIES OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Salaries paid to elementary teachers in cities of 100,000 population and over range from a minimum of \$950 per year to a maximum of \$3,504 per year, according to figures recently made public by the U. S. Bureau of Education. The low minimum is given for Salt Lake City, Utah, which also has the highest number of annual increases required to reach the maximum, or 17 annual increases. The highest maximum salary is given for New York City.

In the tabulation the name of each city is followed by three figures—first, the mini-

mum salary; second, the maximum; third, the number of annual increases.

Alabama: Birmingham, \$1,000, \$2,000, 10.

California: Los Angeles, \$1,400, \$2,440, 13; Oakland, \$1,380, \$2,460, 9; San Francisco, \$1,400, \$2,400, 11.

Colorado: Denver, \$1,200, \$2,520, not specified.

Connecticut: Bridgeport, \$1,000, \$3,100, not specified; Hartford, \$1,000, \$2,000, not specified; New Haven, \$1,000, \$1,850, 9.

Delaware: Wilmington, \$1,000, \$1,800, 9.

District of Columbia: \$1,400, \$2,600, not specified.

Illinois: Chicago, \$1,500, \$2,500, 8.

Indiana: Indianapolis, \$1,300, \$2,800, 12.

Iowa: Des Moines, \$1,200, \$2,210, not specified.

Kansas: Kansas City, \$1,200, \$1,788, not specified.

Louisiana: New Orleans, \$1,200, \$2,250, 8.

Maryland: Baltimore, \$1,200, \$1,800, 6.

Massachusetts: Cambridge, \$1,228, \$1,804, 6; Fall River, \$1,100, \$1,700, 6; Lowell, \$1,200, \$1,700, 6; New Bedford, \$1,000, \$1,900, 10; Springfield, \$1,300, \$1,900, 6; Worcester, \$1,200, \$2,000, 8.

Michigan: Detroit, \$1,200, \$2,000, 5; Grand Rapids, \$1,200, \$2,000, not specified.

Minnesota: Minneapolis, \$1,200, \$2,500, not specified; St. Paul, \$1,100, \$1,700, 10.

Missouri: St. Louis, \$1,200, \$2,700, not specified.

New Jersey: Jersey City, \$1,400, \$2,800, 14; Paterson, \$1,200, \$2,800, 12.

New York: Albany, \$1,100, \$1,900, not specified; Buffalo, \$1,200, \$2,500, not specified; New York, \$1,608, \$3,504, 13; Rochester, \$1,200, \$2,400, 8; Syracuse, \$1,200, \$2,400, not specified; Yonkers, \$1,500, \$2,835, 12.

Ohio: Akron, \$1,000, \$2,000, 10; Cincinnati, not specified, \$2,000, not specified; Cleveland, \$1,200, \$2,800, not specified; Toledo, \$1,250, \$2,240, 9.

Oregon: Portland, \$1,300, \$2,200, 11.
 Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, \$1,200, \$2,400, not specified; Pittsburgh, \$1,200, \$2,000, 8; Scranton, \$1,000, \$1,800, 8.
 Rhode Island: Providence, \$1,000, \$2,000, not specified.
 Tennessee: Nashville, \$1,200, \$1,380, 3.
 Texas: Houston, \$1,000, \$1,800, 8.
 Utah: Salt Lake City, \$950, \$2,200, 17.
 Virginia: Norfolk, \$1,000, \$1,500, 7; Richmond, \$1,100, \$1,800, 9.
 Washington: Seattle, \$1,440, \$2,100, 11; Spokane, \$1,200, \$2,150, not specified.
 Wisconsin: Milwaukee, \$1,200, \$2,600, 12.

—*School and Society.*

GRADUATE STUDENTS ADVISE WISCONSIN FRESHMEN

Five graduate students of the University of Wisconsin will assume this fall the responsibility of assisting first-year men students in the selection of their courses and in their adjustments to college life. The plan had its inception in the university last year. The system is continued in the belief that graduate students, themselves just finished with undergraduate work, can render more acceptable service to new students than older men whose student days are more remote. The administrative assistants, as the graduate advisers are called, are under the supervision of the junior dean of the university.

THE NEW YORK LEGISLATURE LENGTHENS SCHOOL YEAR

Number of days each year during which school must be in session has been increased from 180 to 190 by recent action of the New York State Legislature. Compulsory attendance upon part-time instruction by employed minors, 14 to 17 years of age, except graduates of four-year high schools, is required in cities having a population of 20,000 or more, and in districts where there are 200 or more such employed minors.

Exceptions are made of children mentally or physically defective. The penalty against parents for permitting their children to violate attendance requirements was increased from \$5 or five days' imprisonment to \$10 or ten days' imprisonment for a first offense.

PROFESSOR CRAIGIE KNIGHTED FOR WORK ON DICTIONARY

Professor William A. Craigie, lexicographer at the University of Chicago, has been knighted by King George V in recognition of his achievement in completing the monumental *Oxford Historical Dictionary*. He also received the almost unprecedented honor of taking the robe and degree of Litt. D. from both Oxford and Cambridge universities.

Professor Craigie, who came to the University of Chicago in 1926 to start the *Historical Dictionary of American English*, was Oriel Professor at Oxford, and since 1923 editor of the great *Oxford Dictionary*. The *Oxford Dictionary* was started in 1858, and over a period of seventy years its workers have traced the history of every word in the language, living or dead, back to the seventh century. It now comprises ten volumes, averaging 1,600 pages each and is the final authority.

The American historical dictionary, which will treat American as a separate language, will trace all the words used in books, magazines, and newspapers in this country back three centuries. Volunteer readers all over the country are sending in reports on unfamiliar usages in old records and books. Professor Craigie estimates that the Dictionary will take between five and ten years to complete.

Every school in the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada, is required to maintain a school library, and \$10 for each room in operation must be expended annually in the purchase of books from an authorized list.

—*School Life.*

SOUTH AMERICA

The Pan American Union, Washington, D. C., offers for the use of schools a number of inexpensive pamphlets. Three series of booklets, sold at five cents each, deal with twenty nations of South America, eighteen cities of South America, and twenty-two commodities. For geography classes these booklets should be of special value.

Other recent publications of the Pan American Union include the following: Seeing South America (25c); Seeing the Latin Republics of North America (25c); Ports and Harbors of South America (25c). These three booklets are abundantly illustrated.

THE READING TABLE

IMPORTANT RELIGIOUS BOOKS,
1927-28

A list of thirty-five books published during the library year, furnished by the publishers for the Religious Book Round Table exhibit in connection with the recent American Library Association conference, held at West Baden, Indiana. Selected by Frank Grant Lewis, Chester, Pa. The small library list is starred.

- Abbott, L. F.—"Twelve Great Modernists." Doubleday. 1927. \$3.50.
Baker, E. D.—"Worship of the Little Child." Cokesbury. 1927. 75c.
*Barton, Bruce—"What Can a Man Believe?" Bobbs. 1927. \$2.50.
Beaven, A. W.—"Putting the Church on a Full-Time Basis." Doubleday. 1928. \$2.00.
Bradford, Gamaliel—D. L. Moody; a Worker in Souls. Doran. 1927. \$3.50.
Burton, M. E.—"New Paths for Old Purposes." Missionary Education Movement. 1927. \$1.00.
Case, S. J.—"Jesus; a New Biography." University of Chicago Press. 1927. \$3.00.
Cuttan, G. B.—"Speaking with Tongues." Yale University Press. 1927. \$2.50.
*Darr, V. C.—"Children's Prayers, Recorded by Their Mother." Pilgrim Press. 1928. \$1.25.
Dieffenbach, A. C.—"Religious Liberty." Morrow. 1927. \$1.50.
*Eddy, G. S.—"Religion and Social Justice." Doran. 1927. \$1.50.
Foakes-Jackson, F. J.—"Peter, Prince of Apostles." Doubleday. 1927. \$2.50.
*Fosdick, H. E.—"Pilgrimage to Palestine." Macmillan. 1927. \$2.50.
Frazer, J. G.—"Man, God, and Immortality." Macmillan. 1927. \$3.00.
*Gilkey, C. W.—"Present-day Dilemmas in Religion." Cokesbury. 1928. \$1.50.

- Hooker, E. R.—"How Can Local Churches Come Together?" Home Missions Council. 1928. 25c.
Huxley, J. S.—"Religion Without Revelation." Harper. 1927. \$2.00.
Jacks, L. P.—"Constructive Citizenship." Doubleday. 1928. \$2.00.
*Jones, E. S.—"Christ at the Round Table." Abingdon. 1928. \$1.50.
Jones, R. M.—"New Studies in Mystical Religion." Macmillan. 1927. \$1.75.
Martindale, C. C.—"Faith of the Roman Church." Doran. 1927. \$2.00.
*Moehlman, C. H.—"Story of the Ten Commandments." Harcourt. 1928. \$2.50.
Niebuhr, Reinhold—"Does Civilization Need Religion?" Macmillan. 1927. \$2.00.
Oxenham, John, pseud.—"Gentlemen—the King!" Pilgrim Press. 1928. 75c.
Robinson, W. J.—"What I Believe." Eugenics Publishing Company. 1927. \$2.50.
Sheppard, H. R. L.—"Impatience of a Parson." Doubleday. 1928. \$2.00.
*Smith, G. B.—"Current Christian Thinking." University of Chicago Press. 1928. \$2.00.
*Soares, T. G.—"Religious Education." University of Chicago Press. 1928. \$2.50.
Spinka, Matthew—"Church and the Russian Revolution." Macmillan. 1927. \$2.50.
Stewart, George—"Resurrection in our Street." Doubleday. 1928. \$1.35.
Streeter, B. H., and others—"Adventure; the Faith of Science." Macmillan. 1928. \$2.00.
Stuber, S. I.—"How We Got Our Denominations." Association Press. 1927. \$2.00.
*Thompson, F. C.—"Bob's Hike to the Holy City." Kirkbride Bible Company. 1927. \$2.25.
Vogt, V. O.—"Modern Worship." Yale University Press. 1927. \$2.00.
Woelfkin, Cornelius—"Expanding Horizons." Cokesbury. 1927. \$1.50.

A PARENT'S FIRST BOOK SHELF

The Child Study Association of America, 54 West 74th St., New York, N. Y., has issued the following suggestions for a Parent's First Book Shelf:

- S. Josephine Baker—"Healthy Mothers," "Healthy Babies," "Healthy Children." Little Brown, Boston. 1923. Each, \$1.25.
C. A. Aldrich—"Cultivating the Child's Appetite." Macmillan, New York. 1927. \$1.75.
Max Seham and Grete Seham—"The Tired Child." Lippincott, Philadelphia. 1926. \$2.00.
The Institute of Child Welfare, University of Minnesota—"Child Care and Training." University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. 1928. \$1.00.
Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg—"Your Child Today and Tomorrow." Third revised edition. Lippincott, Philadelphia. 1928. \$2.50.
Dorothy Canfield Fisher—"Mothers and Children." Henry Holt, New York. 1914. \$2.00.
Douglas A. Thom—"Everyday Problems of the Everyday Child." Appleton, New York. 1927. \$2.50.
Jessie Chase Fenton—"A Practical Psychology of Babyhood." Houghton Mifflin, Boston. 1925. \$3.50.